



**STATE OF TENNESSEE  
BRYANT C. DUNAWAY  
District Attorney General  
13<sup>th</sup> Judicial District**

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: FILE: Pursuit White County - Richard Lynch Rams Suspect Car door

FROM: BRYANT C. DUNAWAY, DAG *B.C.D*

DATE: July 20, 2018

RE: Pursuit White County - Richard Lynch Rams Suspect Car Door

Investigator Richard Lynch delivered compact discs (CD's) to ADA Bruce Macleod. These discs contain both dash cam video and body cam video of several White County deputies, all related a pursuit that ended in Monterey ON MAY 4, 2017. Lynch said that his attorney, Shawn Fry, recommended that he deliver the videos to the DA.

Lynch voiced concern that the Sheriff may be out to get him in trouble.

I reviewed the video and discovered that Richard Lynch did in fact "ram" the driver side doors (both) of the suspect's car when it had come to rest. Lynch rammed the doors when the suspect had got out of his car and then hurriedly opened the driver door and looked like he was trying to get something. Lynch felt like he may be attempting to retrieve a weapon. This conclusion appears reasonable after review of the video.

In Body camera video, a deputy (Nate) explains to Sheriff Shoupe what happened, including the ramming of the vehicle by Lynch. Shoupe appears aggravated that he used his patrol vehicle to do this.

Later, Sheriff Shoupe walks back up to the deputy, looks at him sternly cutting his eyes at the deputy and says "He hit Lynch". As the Sheriff walked away the deputies act like that is an untrue statement. It is.

I spoke with Capt. R.C. Christian and asked him to review THP reports to see if Shoupe had reported this false statement to THP. None was found.

I further asked Inv. Lynch to obtain the relevant reports from WCSO. He delivered the report to the DA's office. It does not contain the Sheriff's false statement.

**CONCLUSION:** While the Sheriff's statement on the body camera is false, it appears that no false report was filed and none was requested.

Therefore, no criminal investigation/prosecution is appropriate.